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United States Patent [19]**Repine et al.**[11] **Patent Number:** **5,596,011**[45] **Date of Patent:** **Jan. 21, 1997**[54] **METHOD FOR THE TREATMENT OF
MACULAR DEGENERATION**[76] Inventors: **Karen M. Repine; John E. Repine,**
both of 2275 Cherry Hills Farm Dr.,
Englewood, Colo. 80110[21] Appl. No.: **418,645**[22] Filed: **Apr. 6, 1995**[51] Int. Cl.⁶ **A61K 31/425; A61K 31/195;**
A61K 31/13[52] U.S. Cl. **514/369; 514/562; 514/665;**
514/912[58] Field of Search 514/369, 562,
514/665, 912[56] **References Cited**
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eration, Archives of Ophthalmology, 1994, pp. 176-179.*Primary Examiner*—Zohreh Fay[57] **ABSTRACT**

Macular degeneration is an age-related eye disease for which there is no known treatment to date that has been shown to be effective at treating or preventing the onset or progression of the disease. Current treatment of non-exudative (dry form) macular degeneration is limited to early diagnosis and careful followup, while symptomatic treatment of exudative (wet form) macular degeneration includes laser photocoagulation therapy, surgery, low dose radiation (teletherapy), and anti-oxidant or anti-inflammatory therapies. The present invention relates to a new method for treating or preventing the onset or progression of macular degeneration, comprising periodic administration of a glutathione (GSH) enhancing agent alone or in conjunction with at least one of an anti-oxidant or an anti-inflammatory therapy, and possibly in addition to one or more of the symptomatic treatments mentioned above.

14 Claims, 3 Drawing Sheets